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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

REPORT

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SUBJECT Manufacture of Special Cables at
Kabelwerk Oberspree

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SCIENTIFIC/ECONOMIC

Manufacture of mine clearing cable
by KWO.

1. Description of the cable

- (a) The cable is a floating flexible cable. Buoyancy is achieved by central aluminium capsules of about 80 mm diameter. These capsules are separated from each other by moss-gum (Moosgummi) discs, 10 mm thick: this gives flexibility. This core of capsules and discs is clothed in unvulcanised rubber bands of 100 x 0.3 mm; over this is a kind of copper web of 400 mm², arranged cross-wise in two layers and constructed of 1.2 mm diameter wires. Between the wire layers and outside them are two more rubber layers. The whole cable is provided with a rubber coating for protection against mechanical injury. The rubber is afterwards vulcanised.
- (b) The total diameter of the finished cable is about 120 mm. It is supplied on 3 metre diameter drums.
- (c) The cable is thus mainly a copy of an English cable, except that aluminium capsules are used in place of wood.

2. Use of the cable

The cable is used for destroying magnetic mines. A light tug (Schlepper) tows two cables. A wire electrode is attached to the end of each. Direct current of opposite polarities is fed into each cable, so that a magnetic field, detonating the mines, exists between the cables.

3. Manufacture of the cable

- (a) The manufacture of this cable was entrusted to KWO in 1948 by GLAVKABEL, the department of the Soviet Ministry for Electrical Industry responsible for the cable industry.
- (b) Manufacture was carried out in a closed and guarded section of the works.
- (c) Before manufacture could be undertaken in KWO some installation alterations had to be made.
- (d) The last sample cable was ready in 1949, so that series production began in 1950.
- (e) During manufacture in KWO last year, the section making the cable was visited by specialists from the SEVKABEL works in LENINGRAD. In these latter Works mine clearing cable is to be developed along English lines.
- (f) Manufacture of this cable, after the execution of last year's orders, is provisionally suspended.

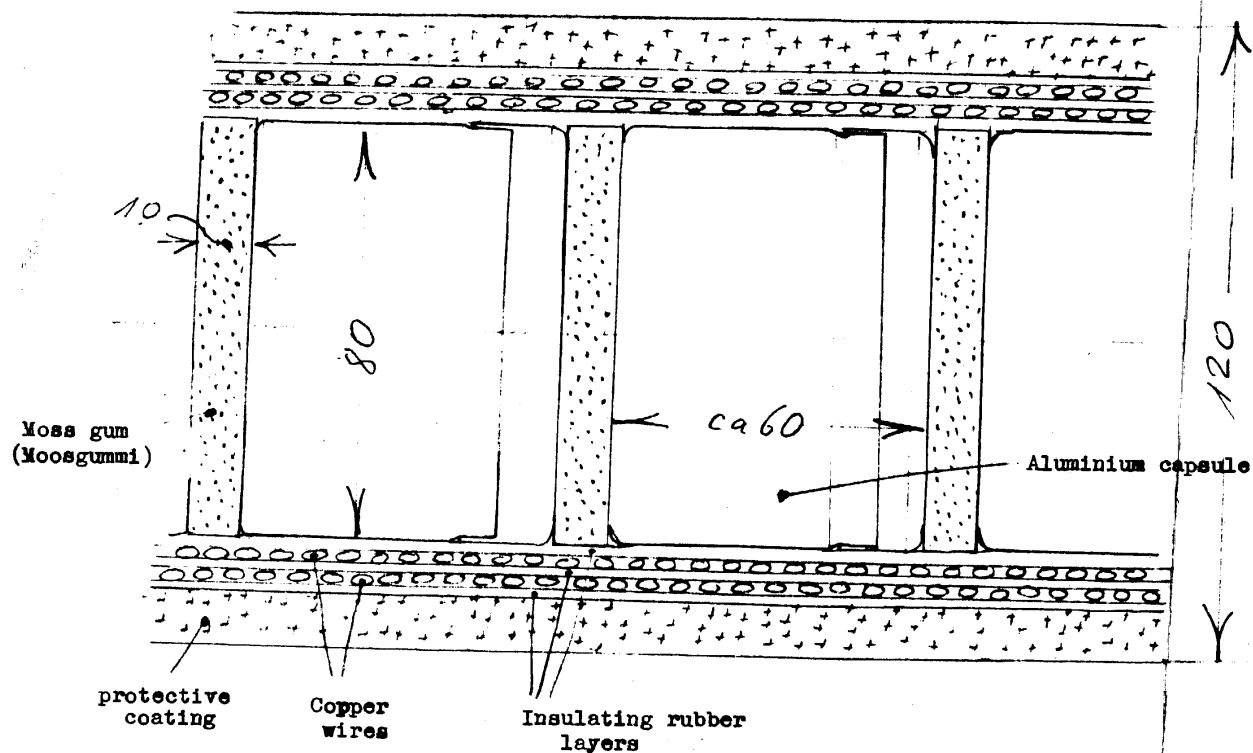
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MINE CLEARING CABLE

Longitudinal section

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Scale: 1 : 1
(dimensions in mm)